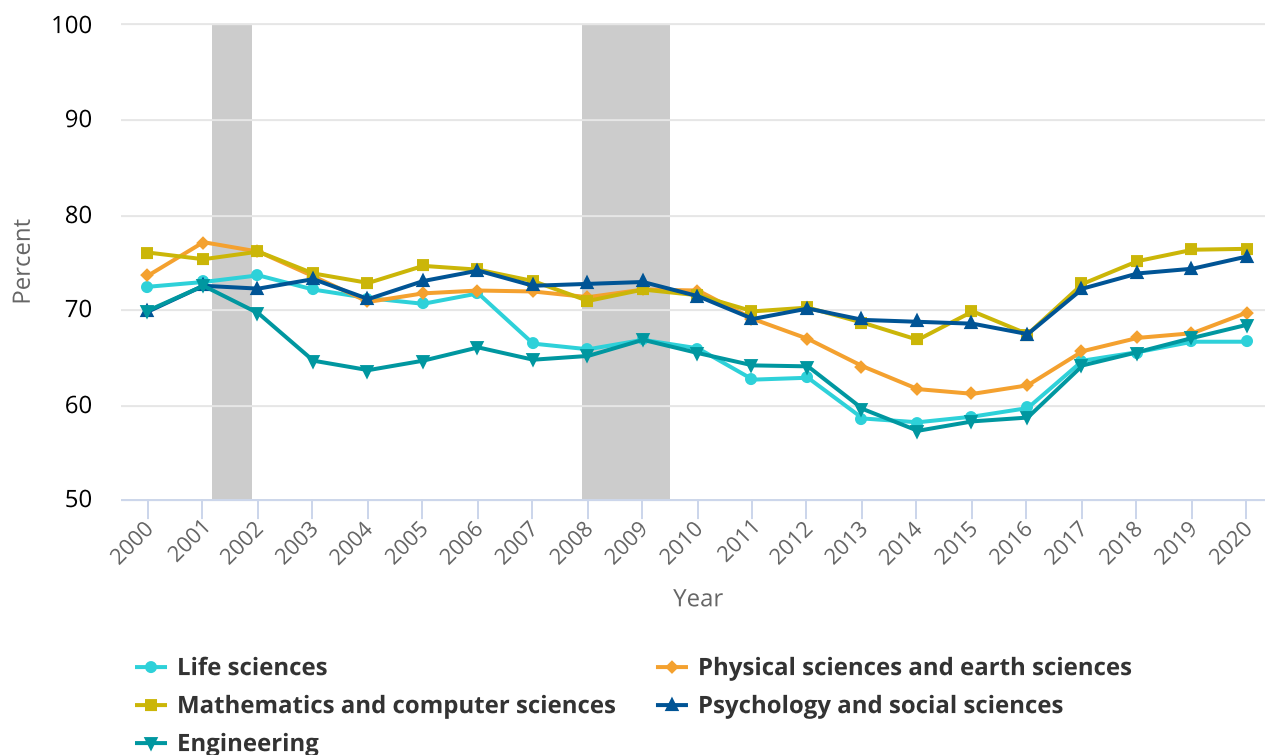


Figure 20**Definite commitments among doctorate recipients, by S&E broad field of study: 2000–20**

S&E = science and engineering.

Note(s):

Shaded areas in the graphic reflect recessions that occurred between March 2001 and November 2001 and between December 2007 and June 2009 (<http://www.nber.org/cycles/cyclesmain.html>). Definite commitment refers to a doctorate recipient who is either returning to predoctoral employment or has signed a contract (or otherwise made a definite commitment) for employment, including postdoctoral study, in the coming year. Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients who responded to the postgraduation status item.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2020. Related detailed table 42 and table 43.